IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Kazunori Taniguchi, et al.

Examiner:

Unassigned

Serial No:

To be assigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

Filed:

· +-- "

Herewith

Docket:

17469

For:

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Dated:

February 23, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

- U.S. Patent No. 5,383,888, dated January 24, 1995, issued to Zvenyatsky et al.;
- 2. U.S. Patent No. 5,275,608, dated January 4, 1994, issued to Forman et al.;
- 3. U.S. Patent No. 5,330,502, dated July 19, 1994, issued to Hassler et al.; and
- 4. U.S. Patent No. 5,549,637, dated August 27, 196, issued to Crainich.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mailing Label No.: EV244124548US

Date of Deposit: February 23, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United

States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application. P.O. Dox 1450. Alexandria. VA 2313-1450.

Dated: February 23, 2004

Thomas Spinelli

The above-cited references are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The above-cited references have been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser 400 Garden City Plaza Garden City, New York 11530 (516) 742-4343

TS:cm

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)	Application Number		
17469	To be assigned		
Applicant(s)			
Kazunori Taniguchi, et al.			
Filing Date	Group Art Unit		
Herewith	Unassigned		

				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
XAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING I	
		5,383,888	1/24/1995	Zvenyatsky et al.				
		5,275,608	1/4/1994	Forman et al.				
		5,330,502	7/19/1994	Hassler et al.				
		5,549,637	8/27/1996	Crainich				
				FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS				
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Transle YES	ntion NO
	_							
	L							
		L						
				OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including	g Author, Title, D	ate, Pertinent Pa	ges, Etc.)	
XAMINER /Vy Bui/		DATE CONSIDERED	DATE CONSIDERED 03/30/2008					

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Kazunori Taniguchi, et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No:

To be assigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

Filed:

Herewith

Docket:

17469

For:

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Dated:

February 23, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Sir:

Applicants in the above-identified application hereby claim the right of priority in connection with Title 35 U.S.C. § 119 and in support thereof, herewith submit a certified copy of Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-051849 (JP2003-051849) filed February 27, 2003; 2003-051850 (JP2003-051850) filed February 27, 2003 and 2003-051851 (JP2003-051851) filed February 27, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Spinelli Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser 400 Garden City Plaza Garden City, New York 11530

(516) 742-4343

TS:cm

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mailing Label No.: EV244124548US

Date of Deposit: February 23, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal
Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and
is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application. P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA
2313-1450.

Dated: February 23, 2004

Thomas Spinelli